

HOW IS A CHRISTIAN TO ACT IN AN UNCHRISTIAN WORLD

1. The Other side of Despair. The word hopeless has no place in a believer's vocabulary.
 - a. Regardless of how dark or desperate a situation seems, hope abides (1 Corinthians 13:13).
 - b. Our hope is anchored in Jesus Christ (1 Peter 3:15,16); thus it is able to withstand any attack.
 - c. Any problem, situation, or affliction we face pales in comparison with the power of the Lord who can help us overcome it (Romans 8:38,39)

We must learn to look beyond our immediate circumstances, beyond the worry and despair that so easily grip us and toward the proverbial light at the end of the tunnel. That light is the hope that God gives in His Word. That hope, that confident expectation, can carry us through.

2. Help For Today
 - a. We are never without hope or beyond the reach of God's grace and the touch of His love.
 - b. The next time something happens that makes us feel hopeless, we need to remember Jesus' response. No matter what happens outside us we can carry hope inside because we are under the loving care and guidance of the God of Easter morning.
 - c. And just think – the God of unsurpassed strength finds and invests tremendous value in us. He saved us with His blood, sealed us with His holy Spirit, and will stand next to us one day when we approach the Father's throne!
 - d. No one can know the full measure of god's family blessing unless they have a personal relationship with Jesus Christ. Without the blessing that comes directly from our heavenly Father to His children, even an earthly parental blessing can't quite fill our cup. Those who didn't receive the blessing of hope from their parents can get all they need from God – by becoming His children.
 - e. Contrary to popular belief, not every person created by God is a member of God's family. The blessing of God is given only to those who believe in His Son. Jesus said, "Most assuredly, I say to you, he who hears My word and believes in Him who sent Me has everlasting life, and shall not come into judgment, but has passed from death into life" (John 5:24).
 - f. In addition to His own blessing, God provides us with a spiritual family – other believers who become like brothers and sisters, fathers and mothers. He uses these people to help meet our needs and give us hope. Let Him use us today to touch someone else for God, bringing hope to an all-too-often hopeless world.

3. Further Study about Hope in the world we live in

Psalms 27;1,14

Psalms 42:5

Psalms 71:5

Psalms 146:5

Isaiah 58:11

John 16:31-33

Romans 5:1-5

1 Thessalonians 4:13-18

Hebrews 13:5

1 Peter 4:12-19

1 Peter 5:6-9

1 John 4:4